

MONTHLY ANALYSIS OF INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT DATA  
New Hampshire, October 2002  
B G McKay

**Seasonally Adjusted:** October's preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates showed that the employment level declined by 1,900 jobs. Five of the nine major industrial divisions posted red numbers for the month. The services industrial division took the largest hit with 2,100 lost jobs. Manufacturing employment fell by 400. Finance, insurance, and real estate saw its number of jobs reduced by 200. To round out the downward trend, the mining and construction industrial divisions lost 100 jobs each.

The three industrial divisions that went against the prevailing tide were (1) trade with a 600-job addition, (2) government with 300 more jobs, and (3) transportation and public utilities increased the employment level by 100 jobs.

**Unadjusted:** Total nonfarm employment for October declined by 200 jobs in October's unadjusted estimates. There was significant activity to arrive at the new level.

To start, the services industrial division experienced some seasonal decline as it had 2,800 fewer jobs. Construction employment fell by 500 jobs. Manufacturing employment was down by 300 jobs from the previous months total. Finance, insurance, and real estate reduced its level by 200 jobs, and in a rare move, the mining industrial division dropped 100 jobs.

Those reductions were alleviated by a 2,200-job increase in the government sector and the trade industrial division brought 1,500 workers on board.

Transportation and public utilities employment was unchanged in over-the-month activity.

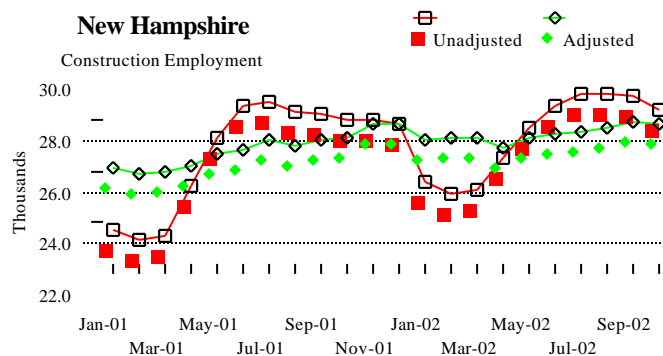
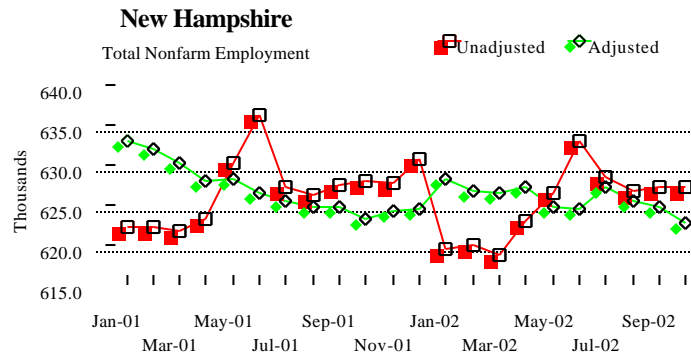
## MINING

The employment level in the mining industrial division returned to its familiar 500-job level in October. Nothing in our data hinted at an emerging trend for this industrial division.

## CONSTRUCTION

**Seasonally Adjusted:** October's 100-job drop in construction employment could be found in the special trade contractors (SIC 17), as employment for general building contractors (SIC 15) and heavy construction contractors (SIC 16) stayed at the September level.

**Unadjusted:** Completion of projects and a snap of cold weather contributed to the 500-job drop in October's unadjusted estimates. Special trade contractors (SIC 17) absorbed 400 of the 500 lost jobs. Heavy construction contractors (SIC 16) saw its ranks dwindle by 100 jobs, while general building contractors (SIC 15) maintained a status quo in its number of employees.



## MANUFACTURING

**Seasonally Adjusted:** Preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates for October showed that the manufacturing industrial division employment fell by 400 jobs. The upside of this estimate is durable goods manufacturing employment grew by 100 jobs. Nondurable goods manufacturing gave us the downside with a 500-job decrease.

Evidence of recent media reports about increased orders for durable goods can be found in the 200 added jobs in electronic and other electrical equipment (SIC 36). Fabricated metal products (SIC 34) and instruments and related products (SIC 38) furnished further credence to those reports as each expanded its work force by 100 jobs.

Not all industries in the durable goods manufacturing subdivision were able to avoid job loss. Stone, clay, and glass products (SIC 32) and industrial machinery and equipment (SIC 35) each cut its respective force by 100 jobs.

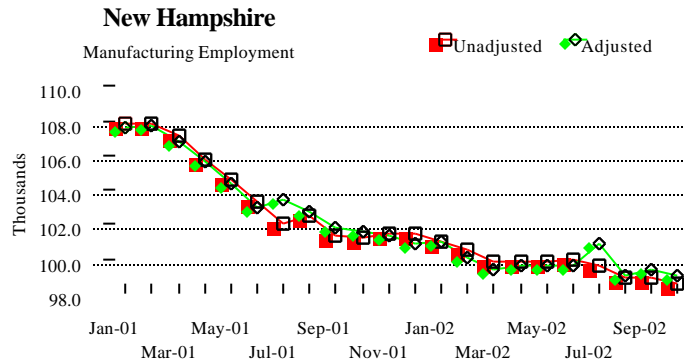
Rubber and miscellaneous plastic products (SIC 30) and leather and leather products (SIC 31), the only two industries that meet publication standards in this subdivision, held their employment at the previous month's levels.

**Unadjusted:** Manufacturing employment declined by 300 jobs in October's unadjusted preliminary estimates. Durable goods manufacturing employment overall remained unchanged from the September level. On the surface, the nondurable goods manufacturing subdivision was responsible for the employment drop.

Within durable goods manufacturing, there were some bright spots. Industrial machinery and equipment (SIC 35) and electronic and other electrical equipment (SIC 36) each expanded its respective labor force by 100 jobs. The remaining published industries did not change their employment levels during the month, except stone, clay, and glass products (SIC 32). This industry reduced its labor pool by 100 jobs.

Employment movement by the published industries in the nondurable goods manufacturing sector was downward. Food and kindred products (SIC 20), textile mills and apparel manufacturers (SIC 22 and 23), paper and allied products (SIC 26), and printing and publishing (SIC 27), each trimmed 100 jobs from their labor pools. Most of these estimates reflect the slight normal seasonal downturn expected at this time of year, except for paper and allied products. Although employment in the paper and allied products industry has slowed its rate of reduction substantially, the industry still suffered a minor set back.

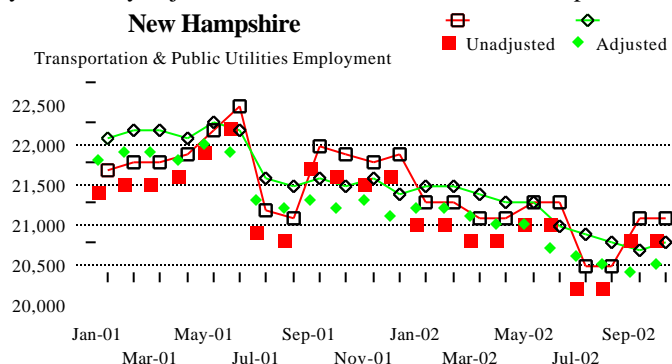
Rubber and miscellaneous plastic products (SIC 30) and leather and leather products (SIC 31) employment was unchanged from the September level.



## TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

**Seasonally Adjusted:** Employment in preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates showed that the transportation and public utilities industrial division grew by 100 jobs. Raw data suggested that the 100-job increase was distributed across the industrial division.

**Unadjusted:** Transportation and public utilities experienced a calm October according to the preliminary estimates. All published levels of employment showed no changes for the month.



## TRADE

**Seasonally Adjusted:** Trade broadened its ranks by 600 jobs in the October preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates. The 600-job increase was evenly divided between retail and wholesale trade.

A review of the published industries in retail trade showed that a 200-job increase in food stores (SIC 54) was offset by a 200-job decrease in general merchandise stores (SIC 53). A 100-job addition in eating and drinking establishments (SIC 58) was erased by a 100-job subtraction in furniture, home furnishings and equipment stores (SIC 57).

**Unadjusted:** Unadjusted estimates showed trade grew by 1,500 jobs in October. Wholesale trade accounted for 300 of those 1,500 additional jobs.

As the adjoining charts shows, trade employment in October generally rebounds from a September seasonal cut back. General merchandise stores (SIC 53) contributed 600 jobs to retail trade's 1,200-job rebound. Employment in food stores (SIC 54) was up by 300 jobs.

Automotive dealers and service stations (SIC 55) and furniture, home furnishings, and equipment (SIC 57) held employment at the September level.

Eating and drinking establishment (SIC 58) employment declined by 500 jobs in October, which is common for this time of year.

## FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE

**Seasonally Adjusted:** A review of previous years' movement in the seasonally adjusted trend line indicated that a slight drop in employment was not an uncommon event. Even with 200-job cut back in October, employment conditions still appeared healthy for this industrial division.

**Unadjusted:** Preliminary unadjusted estimates for October showed that employment in finance, insurance, and real estate industrial division declined by 200 jobs.

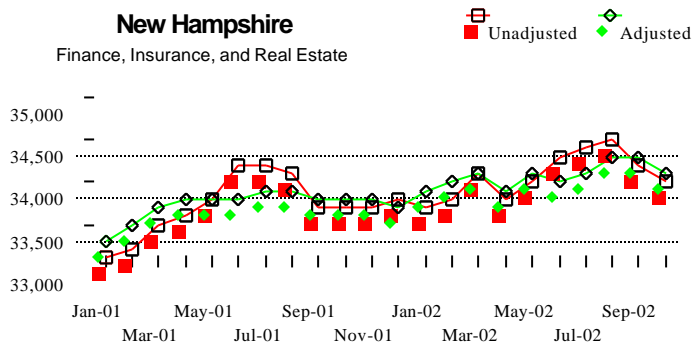
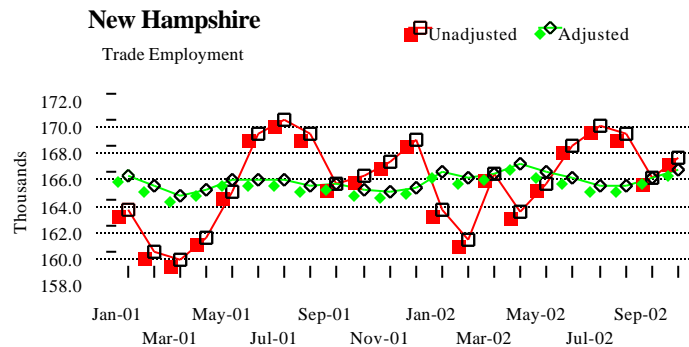
Employment levels in the insurance industries incurred no changes in over-the-month activities.

The sample suggested that elements in real estate were the principal force behind the industrial division's movement in the unadjusted trend line.

## SERVICES

**Seasonally Adjusted:** After seasonal elements had been removed from the preliminary estimates, the services industrial division lost 2,100 jobs. In comparison to the changes of the industrial divisions in New Hampshire, services' October amount was substantial. However, history showed that this month's shift followed established patterns.

Hotels and other lodging places (SIC 70) and business services (SIC 73) each contributed 300 jobs to the 2,100-job reduction this industrial division experienced in October.



**Unadjusted:** October is one of those months that fall between peak seasons -- summer vacation is complete and the climate is not quite right for skiing. Services industrial division employment declined by 2,800 jobs.

One of the industries most affected by an “off season slump” is hotels and other lodging places (SIC 70). This industry had 1,400 fewer workers on the job in October.

There was evidence in the sample to imply that industries in this division associated with travel, tourism, recreation, and leisure were busy trimming their work force.

Business services (SIC 73) employed 200 fewer workers in October. Given employment patterns of personnel supply firms, a shift in employment of 200 jobs is not significant.

Health services (SIC 80) expanded its ranks by 100 jobs during the month. Within health services, hospitals (SIC 806) employment remained at the September level.

## GOVERNMENT

**Seasonally Adjusted:** Initial October estimates for government employment showed a modest increase in the work force. Overall, there were 300 additional government workers on the job for the month. Local government accounted for 200 of the 300 jobs, while state government ranks increased by 100 jobs.

**Unadjusted:** This data series showed that government employment was up by 2,200 jobs in October. Educational services at the both state and local echelons of government were responsible for the month’s increase, as federal government employment held the September level.

